GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2296
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2017
New Lines/Gauge Conversion
K. Shri Parasuraman;Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railways has any proposal for new lines and gauge conversion of existing lines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise and whether the Government has also fixed time-frame for early completion of gauge conversion; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (c): As on 01.04.2016, there are 166 nos. of ongoing New Line and 39 Gauge Conversion projects in the country, the Zone-wise details of which are Appended. A railway project requires a number of clearances from various Ministries and Departments of State/Central Governments. These, inter-alia, include clearances inherent to land acquisition, forestry clearance and permission for crossing from departments like National Highway Authority of India, Public Works Department, Irrigation canals etc, and also clearances of Archeological Survey of India if the alignment passes in vicinity of a protected monument, local bodies for projects passing through urban areas, etc which are part of project execution. In addition, as per the prevailing system, funds are allocated on yearly basis based on the Gross Budgetary Support from Ministry of Finance and internal generation. Therefore, it is not feasible to fix any timeframe for completion of railway projects. However, it is always Railways' endeavour to complete the ongoing projects expeditiously.

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